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Governor

New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Division of Consumer Affairs
Office of the Director
124 Halsey Street, 7th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102



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Director

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February 24, 2006

Dear Merchant:

Effective March 1, 2006, the age at which a person must wear a properly fitted and fastened helmet while operating a bicycle, roller skates, or skateboard will be raised from under 14 to under 17, except where exempted by municipal ordinance. As is currently required, the helmet must meet certain national standards and be worn by the bicyclist, skateboarder, or roller skater on any property open to the public or used by the public for pedestrian and vehicular use. The provisions of this law now apply to anyone under the age of 17 (previously under the age of 14) who rides on a bicycle as a passenger, including anyone who is in a restraint seat attached to the bicycle or in a trailer towed by a bicycle.

All merchants who sell or rent bicycles, roller skates and/or skateboards must inform customers of this helmet requirement. The only change to current law is the age at which individuals must wear helmets. In light of this change, merchants must revise your posted signs to reflect the new age requirement. All other provisions of existing helmet regulations remain in effect.

For your convenience, we have enclosed the following:

- A copy of the law.
- A Fact Sheet summarizing the provisions of this law.
- Samples of signs notifying customers of the helmet requirements. You may create your own signs or copy the sample signs. Please note the specific size requirements.

For more information, you may contact Pamela McClure in my office at 973-504-6315.

Sincerely,

Kimberly S. Ricketts
Director

